

Practitioner's Docket No. 67686/00-602



#3
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: De la Fuente et al.
Application No.: 10/002,636
Confirmation No.: 1974
Filed: 10/26/2001
For: Immunoprotective recombinant antigen from anaplasma marginale, vaccine compositions and methods of use
Group No.: 1653
Examiner: Unknown

**Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231**

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING OR
BEFORE MAILING OF FIRST OFFICE ACTION (37 C.F.R. 1.97(b))**

NOTE: "An information disclosure statement shall be considered by the Office if filed by the applicant: (1) within three months of the filing date of a national application; (2) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application; or (3) before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last." 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b).

NOTE: The "filing date of a national application" under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) has two possible meanings. Where the filing is a direct one to the United States Patent & Trademark office, the filing is defined in 37 C.F.R.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 C.F.R. SECTION 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

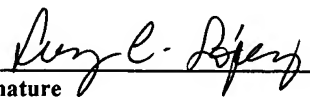
MAILING

[X] deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date: March 12, 2002

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Signature

LUZ C. LOPEZ
(type or print name of person certifying)

(Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement
Within Three Months of Filing or Before Mailing of First Office Action—page 1 of 4)

1.53(b) as "the date on which: (1) A specification containing a description pursuant to § 1.71 and at least one claim pursuant to § 1.75; and (2) any drawing required by § 1.81(a), are filed in the Patent and Trademark Office in the name of the actual inventor or inventors as required by § 1.41." 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(1). On the other hand, an international application that enters the national stage occurs when the applicant has filed the documents and fees required by 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) within the periods set forth in § 1.494 or § 1.495. 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) requires the filing of the following: (1) the basic national fee; (2) a copy of the international application, unless already sent by the International Bureau, and optionally an English translation if filed in another language; and, also optionally (3) amendments under PCT Article 19, with a translation into English if made in another language; (4) an oath or declaration; and (5) a translation into English of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report, if such annexes were made in another language. The optional items must be submitted later, with surcharges. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(2).

List of Sections Forming Part of This Information Disclosure Statement

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

1. Timing of Statement (with any required certifications)
2. Preliminary Statements
3. Forms PTO-1449 (Modified)
4. Comments on References
5. Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

Section 1. Timing of Statement (with any required certifications)

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. 37 C.F.R. section 1.97(b).

NOTE: "No certification or fee is due when the filing is made within the above time period. It is advisable to ensure that no Office action has been mailed if the disclosure statement is delayed until after three months from filing."

NOTE: "An information disclosure statement will be considered to have been filed on the day it was received in the Office, or on an earlier date of a mailing if accompanied by a properly executed certificate of mailing under 37 C.F.R. 1.8, or Express Mail certificate under 37 C.F.R. 1.10. An office action is mailed on the date indicated in the Office action." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

NOTE: "The term 'national application' includes continuing applications (continuations, divisions, continuations-in-part) so three-months will be measured from the actual filing date of an application as opposed [sic] to the effective date of a continuing application." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

NOTE: *"An action on the merits means an action which treats the patentability of the claims in an application, as opposed to only formal or procedural requirements. An action on the merits would, for example, contain a rejection or indication of allowability of a claim or claims rather than just a restriction requirements (37 C.F.R. 1.142) or just a requirement for additional fees to have a claim considered (37 C.F.R. 1.16(d)). Thus, if an application was filed on Jan. 1 and the first Office action on the merits was not mailed until six months later on July 1, the examiner would be required to consider any proper information disclosure statement filed prior to July 1." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).*

WARNING: *"A petition for suspension of action to allow applicant time to submit an information disclosure statement will be denied as failing to present good and sufficient reasons, since 37 C.F.R. 1.97 provides adequate recourse for the timely submission of prior art for consideration by the examiner." Notice of July 6, 1992 (1141 O.G. 63).*

Section 2. Preliminary statements

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information, of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. section 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

Section 3. Form PTO-1449 (Modified)

Attached.

Section 4. Comments on References

Items AL and AM are submitted to make a complete record of the bibliography included in the specification, but please take note that the publication of such references occurred after the earliest effective filing date accorded the present invention.

Section 5. Identification of Person Making This Information Disclosure Statement

The person making this certification is:

a. the practitioner who signs below on the basis of the information in the practitioner's file.

No additional fee is believed to be due. However, if any fee is made payable by the filing of this paper, please consider this our authorization to charge the deposit account of the undersigned, Deposit Account No. 06-0540.

Respectfully submitted,

3/12/02
DATE

R. Alan Weeks
SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

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